

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, AR, CI, US

SUBJECT: PERON GIVES TOUR D' HORIZON INTERVIEW WITH ITALIAN PUBLICATION.

1. SUMMARY. IN AN UNDATED INTERVIEW WITH THE ITALIAN MAGAZINE, DOMENICA DEL CORRIERE, PRESIDENT PERON TOUCHED ON, AMONG OTHER TOPICS, SECRETARY KISSINGER'S LA STATEMENTS, GOA RELATIONS WITH BRAZIL AND CHILE, AND HIS VIEW OF VIOLENCE IN ARGENTINA. PERON REPEATED HIS FAMILIAR THEMES OF THE TWO IMPERIALISMS, THE FUTURE ECONOMIC GREATNESS OF ARGENTINA, THE NEED FOR HISPANIC INTEGRATION IN LA, AND IN AN INTERESTING IF OBSCURE ASIDE, PROCLAIMED, "I AM A SOCIALIST, BUT NOT A HALF WITTED ONE". HE ALSO TREATED IN A FACILE MANNER THE QUESTION OF FOREIGN INVESTMENT. END SUMMARY.

2. COMMENTING ON SECRETARY KISSINGER, PERON NOTED THAT TO THIS POINT, KISSINGER'S STATEMENTS ON US POLICY TOWARD LA ARE ONLY VERBAL ACTIONS, BUT WELCOME BECAUSE THE WORDS ARE POSITIVE ONES.

3. PERON REPEATED HIS USUAL LINE ABOUT THE NEED FOR AN HISPANIC INTEGRATION MOVEMENT AS A MEANS OF FOSTERING

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DEVELOPMENT AND INDEPENDENCE. ASKED IF BRAZIL WOULD ACCEPT

ARGENTINE PROPONDERANCE IN SUCH A MOVEMENT, PERON CITING THE BRITISH EXAMPLE, SAID "I BELIEVE SOONER OR LATER BRAZIL WILL COME TO US WITH HAT IN HAND".

4. PERON RIDICULED THE CHILEAN MILITARY CLAIM THAT THE ENTIRE CHILEAN POPULACE IS ARMED, AND THAT THE ARMS ARE RUSSIAN. HE EXPRESSED HORROR OVER THE PRESENT SITUATION IN CHILE AND THEN ELLIPTICALLY AFFIRMED HIS BELIEF THAT "MILITARY DICTATORSHIPS ARE NEARING TERMINATION".

5. ON INTERNAL VIOLENCE, PERON CLAIMED THAT THERE IS NO POLITICAL VIOLENCE IN ARGENTINA, THERE IS DELINQUENCY. VIOLENCE, HE AVERRED, IS NOT A POLITICAL PROBLEM, IT IS A POLICE PROBLEM.

6. ON FOREIGN INVESTMENT, PERON'S INTERVIEWER NOTED THAT THERE APPEARED TO BE A "LACK OF INTEREST" AMONG EUROPEANS TO INVEST IN ARGENTINA. PERON RESPONDED "VERY WELL, WE WILL TURN TO THE CHINESE". IN THIS CONNECTION, PERON ASKED IF HE WOULD LIKE TO VISIT CHINA, SAID IN WHAT APPEARED TO BE A THROWAWAY LINE, "I THINK SO".

7. THE VAGUENESS OF MUCH OF PERON'S COMMENTS ALLOW, AS USUAL, A VARIETY OF INTERPRETATIONS. ON CHILE, HE APPEARED TO BE FUZZING THE CLEAR STATEMENTS REPORTED IN BA 7178.
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